

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Setsuo MISHIMA, et al.

Docket No: Q78557

Appln. No.: 10/715,568

Group Art Unit: 1793

Confirmation No.: 5060

Examiner: Tima Michelle McGuthry Banks

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: MARAGING STEEL AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is

earlier), and the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is being submitted via EFS Payment Screen.

For the Examiners information, directed to the maraging steel and to a thin strip made from the maraging steel (claims 1 and 2 respectively, attached) were allowed in the European Patent Office. EP claim 2 is similar to US claims 13 and 14.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

*Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 2002-161309, 05-186813, 55-028384, 04-002745, 2000-297353, 2003-183765, 11-293407 are being submitted with English language abstracts.*

*Japanese Patent Application Publication 55-091923 is being submitted with a UK patent publication of GB 2 043 113 A (which is a counterpart of JP 55-091923).*

*All of these references were filed in Information Disclosure Statements in Application No. 10/574,839 filed April 6, 2006.*

*Although it is doubtful that it will be of much assistance to the Examiner, the ISR in that application is submitted herewith.*

Applicants requested that these references be made of record in the present application.

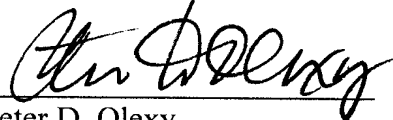
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter D. Olexy  
Registration No. 24,513

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 7, 2008